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The descriptions of the base-level surface are not supported by the illustrations, which suggest an upland of marked relief. Lake basins are accepted as the measure of glacial erosion, notwithstanding that the error of this measure has often been pointed out. The importance of ice action in modifying the forms of the valleys and in producing much of the ruggedness of mountain form, is not recognized. It is asserted that the Highland valleys were formerly filled up with boulder clay, which was later removed by local glaciers and post-glacial denudation; yet no evidence is given to support the assertion of so improbable a history.

The work is abundantly illustrated by numerous beautifully colored maps and excellent engravings. Occasionally the confusion which characterizes much of the text is apparent in the maps. On the geological map at the end of Volume I, the axis of the great central fan or "Fächer" is located near the northern boundary fault of the Midland Valley, and labelled "Supposed axis of Marginal Fächer." The axis of the "Ben Lawers Fächer" is labelled "Axis of Great Central Fächer." As a result, the descriptions on pages 181-183, with their reference to the map, are most confusing.

The work is altogether a most disappointing publication. The reader finishes his perusal of the text with the conviction that it does not treat in a capable and convincing manner the important subject with which it deals.

D. W. JOHNSON.

**The California Earthquake of April 18, 1906.** Report of the State Earthquake Investigation Commission. In Two Parts and Atlas. By Andrew C. Lawson and Others. Part I: xviii and 254 pp.; Part II: pp. 255-451, Maps, Seismograms, and Illustrations. Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, 1908. Price (2 Parts and Atlas) \$17.

The Atlas is noticed in the *Bulletin*, Vol. 41, p. 469. The Report has been everywhere recognized not only as an able and complete account of the California earthquake of 1906, but also as a very important addition to the literature of seismology. Although the Commission which made this investigation and report was appointed by the Governor of California, the State government provided no funds for the conduct of the work. The resulting embarrassment was finally relieved by a subvention from the Carnegie Institution.

**Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse der Expedition Filchner nach China und Tibet, 1903-1905.** X. Band—I. Tiel. 1 Abschnitt: Zoologische Sammlungen. C. Attems, M. Burr, A. Forel and Others; 2 Abschnitt. Botanische Sammlungen. Prof. Dr. Diels. xii and 288 pp., Map, Illustrations, and Index. Ernst Siegfried Mittler und Sohn, Berlin, 1908.

The expedition of Lieut. Wilhelm Filchner to China and Tibet was remarkably fruitful in scientific results and was recognized by the German Geographical Congress with a special vote of thanks. Means were provided for the full presentation and discussion of these results and the volumes are now appearing, in sumptuous form, from the press of Mittler & Son. Eighteen specialists of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and England report, in the present volume, on the zoological collections. The botanical results, chiefly the work of the explorer's wife, are discussed by Dr. Diels in 28 pp.